



Embassy of the United States of America, Manila

Public Affairs Section

NEWS RELEASE

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US Embassy Statement on the Bomb Explosion in Zamboanga International Airport

The US Embassy condemns the bombing that took place at the Zamboanga International Airport yesterday. US Ambassador Harry K. Thomas, Jr. said "I deplore this heinous crime that victimized ordinary travelers. Our condolences to the innocent deceased and wounded victims of this brutal attack.

We would like to extend our admiration to local authorities and the Philippine National Police (PNP) who moved swiftly to aid persons wounded by the blast. The United States stands ready to offer any assistance requested by Philippine authorities so that those responsible may swiftly be brought to justice. The United States stands with the Filipino people, who work every day to enhance their peace and security."

Ambassador Thomas added, "Knowing that the PNP is working hard to investigate this tragic incident, and understanding that my visit would require a great deal of security support, I have decided to postpone the visit I had planned today in order to avoid distracting the PNP from their most urgent task – investigating this heinous attack. The issues I planned to address – including our joint effort to prevent trafficking in persons and our collaboration in the fight against tuberculosis – remain priorities on our shared agenda. I look forward to traveling to Zamboanga soon, to reiterate our support on these vital issues and, I hope, to congratulate authorities on a successful investigation of this awful crime."

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